

“Overcoming the Counter-Attacks of the Enemy”
Acts 16:16-18

Law of resistance – For every threat of kingdom advance – there is a counter-attack of hell’s forces.

Five times you can expect spiritual attack:

1. You are growing spiritually
2. You invade enemy territory
3. You expose the enemy
4. You are breaking from the world
5. You experience the blessings of God

“Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.” 1 Peter 5:8

Three quick thoughts about pythons:

1. They are not as dangerous when they are small
2. Their power is in their ability to constrict
3. They suffocate and crush their victims

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” John 10:10

“As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.” Ephesians 2:1, 2

“Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering as though something strange was happening to you.” 1 Peter 4:12

How can we overcome the counter-attacks of the enemy?

1. Don’t give the devil a foothold

“Do not give the devil a foothold.” Ephesians 4:27

2. Make a decision to resist the enemy

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” James 4:7, 8

“Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.” Ephesians 6:11

“Therefore, put on the full armor of God so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” Ephesians 6:13

“Stand firm then with the belt of truth buckled around your waist.” Ephesians 6:14

3. Repent:

1. Through confession

“God, I’m sorry that I so easily fall into trusting myself. And that I so often try to find satisfaction in doing it my way rather than trusting your way. God, forgive me for making excuses for my sin, for blaming other people for my sin. I repent. I ask you to forgive me. I repent of my sin.”

2. Through confession by the power of the blood of Christ

Principle: The devil cannot penetrate the blood of Jesus.

“They overcame him (the devil) by the blood of the Lamb.” Revelation 12:11

3. Through confession to the body of Christ

“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.” James 5:16

4. Rebuke demonic activity directly

5. Draw your strength from God

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power”. Ephesians 6:10

“Because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore, he is able to save completely those who come to God through him because he always lives to intercede for them. Such a high priest meets our needs one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sin is exalted above the heavens.” Hebrews 7:24, 25, 26

“He has forgiven you all your sins: Christ has utterly wiped out the damning evidence of broken laws and commandments which always hung over our heads, and has completely annulled it by nailing it over His own head on the cross. And then, having drawn the sting of all the power raged against us, he exposed them, shattered, empty and defeated, in his final glorious triumphant act!” Colossians 2:13, 14

“Lord, fill me with your presence. Fill me up, Lord Jesus Christ, with your powerful presence.”